

GOVERNMENT OF TALANGANA
ABSTRACT

Forest Conservation Act – Diversion of 33.58 ha. of forest land of Kondapuram RF of Paloncha Division for Manuguru OCP (part of 406.15 Ha Underground mining area of 1,321 Ha, for which Stage-II approval has been accorded), in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) – **Final (Stage-II)** approval – Accorded.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 44

Dated: 08-06-2016.
Read the following:

1. From the PCCF, AP, Hyd., Lr.No.35890/2008-F1, Dt.8.10.2010.
2. State Govt. Lr.No.8355/For.I (1)/2010, Dt.27.10.2010.
3. From GOI, MoEF, New Delhi, F.No.8-73/2005-FC, Dt.20.02.2014.
4. From the PCCF, AP, Hyd., Lr.No.35890/2008-FCA1/TS, Dt.21.06.2015.
5. State Govt. Lr. No.8355/For.I (1)/2010, Dt: 04-07-2015.
6. From GOI, MoEF, New Delhi, F.No.8-73/2005-FC (Vol.I), Dt.9.05.2016.

ORDER

In his letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad has furnished a proposal for diversion of 33.58 ha of forest land in Comp. No. 7 of Kondapuram RF of Paloncha Division for Manuguru OCP (part of 406.15 Ha Underground mining area of 1,321 Ha, for which Stage-II approval has been accorded), in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL).

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal in para-1 above was forwarded to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi for granting approval under section -2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980.

3. In their letter 3rd read above, the Ministry of Environment & Forests Government of India, New Delhi have granted in-principle (Stage-I) approval for the above proposal, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated thereof.

4. In the letter 5th read above, Government of Telangana have sent the report of compliance on the conditions stipulated by Government of India, as submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad in his letter 4th read above, to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi for according necessary approval.

5. In their letter 6th read above, the Central Government have granted final approval for the proposal in para 1 above, under section 2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated therein.

6. Accordingly, Government hereby accord **final (Stage-II)** approval for diversion of 33.58 ha of forest land in Comp. No. 7 of Kondapuram RF of Paloncha Division for Manuguru OCP (part of 406.15 Ha Underground mining area of 1,321 Ha, for which Stage-II approval has been accorded in July 2008), in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) under section-2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

(PTO)

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- (iii) The forest land on surface of the mining lease shall be fenced and afforested by the User Agency at the project cost;
- (iv) The non-forest land which is transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation, shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section - 4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act. The Nodal Officer, Forest (conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Telangana must report compliance within a period of 6 months from the date of grant of final approval and send a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section - 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the local Forest Act local forest as the case may be, to this Ministry for information and record;
- (v) Following activities shall be ensured by the user agency in consultation with State forest Department at the project cost;
 - (a) An approved plan for appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams may be implemented;
 - (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion;
 - (c) Construction of check dams, retention / toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour;
 - (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading / benching so as to ensure that that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28° ; and
 - (e) Strict adherence to the prescribed top soil management.
- (vi) The State Govt. and the user agency shall ensure land surrender schedule for surrender of the mined out and biologically reclaimed forest land as per approved mine plan and progressive mine closure plan. The biologically reclaimed forest land will also be surrendered to the State Forest Department as per approved schedule;
- (vii) Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area (7.5 meters strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area as recommended by the Stage govt.) shall be done at the project cost. Besides this afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere measuring one & a half times the area under safety zone shall also be done at the project cost;
- (viii) To enrich the buffer area and to mitigate the impact of mining, provisions given in the approved action plan for Environmental Management shall be implemented by the State Forest Department at the project cost;

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- (ix) Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, and the Rules framed there-under, subject to a maximum period of 30 years;
- (x) User agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall ensure gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.4), if any, located in the area within 100 meters from outer perimeter of the mining lease;
- (xi) The State Government and User Agency shall ensure de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies, whenever required;
- (xii) User Agency shall ensure mining in a phased manner and take due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the User agency as per the approved mining plan/scheme and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Telangana and concerned Regional Office of this Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned regional Office of this Ministry may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;
- (xiii) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (xiv) User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest area;
- (xv) Boundary of the mining lease and safety zone shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
- (xvi) Forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xvii) Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- (xviii) The User Agency shall submit the annual report on compliance to conditions stipulated in the approval conditions and also the condition stipulated in Stage-I clearance to the State Government and the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry; and
- (xix) User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

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7. The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad shall take necessary action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

VIKAS RAJ
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and User Agency.
The Director, Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests &
Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New
Delhi 110 003.
SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER